

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 remain in the application. Claims 2, 5-12, and 16 have been amended.

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The office action dated April 9, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, claims 2-3, 5-12, and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-5, 9, and 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicants related art (hereinafter "related art") in view of Japanese Patent Application No. JP353067503 A to Takekoshi et al. (hereinafter "Takekoshi").

Claims 2-3, 5-12, and 16-17 have been amended to clarify the claims in light of the Examiners 35 USC § 112 ¶ 2 rejection. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn in light of the amendments to the claims.

The rejection of claim 1 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a controller detecting a current flowing through the conductive object detection pattern, and in response thereto supplying a control signal to the power source to selectively supply power to the light source." Takekoshi discloses a lightweight coordinate detecting device using an electrostatic capacity detection type detection panel. (See Abstract.) This panel detects variations in electrostatic capacity between detection electrodes. The change in electrostatic capacity causes a circuit to oscillate, and the oscillation frequency is converted into a voltage detected by a voltage detection device. Therefore, Takekoshi does not disclose a controller detecting a current flowing through a conductive object pattern, and none of the prior art, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-5, 9, and 13-17, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

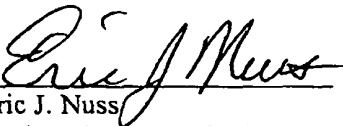
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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